FBIS-SOV-86-069
Thursday
10 April 1986
Vol III No 069 Supp 076

Supplement

Daily Report

SOVIET UNION

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

FBIS DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS

USSR National Affairs

Vol III No 069 10 Apr 86

POLITICAL & SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Gorbachev Meets Tolyatti, Kuybyshev Workers ..... R 1
Meeting With VAZ Workers ..... R 1
Tolyatti Workers Raise Problems ..... R 2
Meets Kuybyshev Workers ..... R 3
Further on Kuybyshev Meetings ..... R 5
Gorbachev Departs Kuybyshev for Moscow ..... R 6
Seen Off by Muravyev ..... R 6
Aliyev, Others Greet Gorbachev ..... R 6
Gromyko Arrives in Sverdlovsk 9 April ..... R 6
Further on Supreme Soviet Presidium Resolution *[IZVESTIYA 3 Apr]* ..... R 7
Aliyev Addresses Ministry of Railways Collegium ..... R 8
Ligachev, Demichev Attend Drama Production ..... R 9
Dolgikh Addresses Maritime Fleet Collegium Session ..... R 9
Economist Analyzes Social Policy Spending *[Sarkisyan in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 4 Apr]* ..... R 9
RSFSR Ministers Views West Siberia Development *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 2 Apr]* ..... R 11
Armenian Commerce Minister Dismissed on Corruption *[AFP]* ..... R 11

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Agricultural Developments for 7-9 Apr Reported ..... T 1

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Cosmonaut Death Claims 'Propaganda' *[Golovanov in IZVESTIYA 3 Apr]* ..... U 1

Gorbachev Meets Tolyatti, Kuybyshev Workers

Meeting With VAZ Workers

LD091631 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] Meetings between Mikhail Sergeyvich Gorbachev and working people of Kuybyshev and the oblast are continuing. Today he spent the morning at the Volga motor vehicle works in Tolyatti. He conversed in the workshops with workers and engineers, designers and testing staff. Talk turned to the work of the country's biggest motor vehicle enterprise in the new economic conditions. In a little over an hour, that is in the time it takes to go by car from Kuybyshev to Tolyatti, about 200 vehicles came off the main VAZ conveyer. A good rate, said the CPSU Central Committee's general secretary to the workers, but today these high quantitative indices can no longer satisfy us. We should step up efforts to achieve high quality and reliability for the brand as well.

I believe in our Zhigulis, said Comrade (Ishutin), driver at the racing vehicle laboratory, a participant in the conversation at the works track where all new vehicles are tested. I myself made the parts for many models; I have taken part in rallies with my comrades and won prizes and I became a candidate for master of sports behind my own wheel, not someone else's. Our working mood after the congress is for a breakthrough to new quality. The factory is being reconstructed; there are many talented engineers and inventors. What is it that hinders us from reaching the target faster? It is having to deal with one piece of paper after another, darn it, said Comrade (Ishutin). Someone dreams up something new, he applies to one office then another, has to explain and prove things, but time is passing. Things are now changing for the better but not as fast as they should.

The workers think that the new methods of management which the enterprise went over to last year should improve the very style of production. The economic levers for intensification are the most reliable. We are all interested in the main thing: for more VAZ models to come onto the market, for their competitiveness in the world to increase, and we must do this with less effort and less expense. Such is the aim of self-financing, when it is the collective itself that earns the funds for speeding up technical and social development, and at the same time constantly increases contributions to the budget. Every worker, from the general director to the machine-tool operator, is directly interested in the final results of such a way of management. It is people who have to implement these plans. The Communists of VAZ understand that now it is the human factor in the economy that is decisive. Thanks to this the initiative of the Volga workers is valuable; they make use of the experiment by creating a general inclination toward acceleration.

In one of the blocks, the motor vehicle builders asked Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to give his impressions from his acquaintance with the enterprise. The first thing that strikes one, he said, is the scale. I wanted very much to come and visit you right after the congress and to get a feel of how the people are inclined toward the congress and what it adopted. I know the VAZ workers have had a good attitude for a long time now. You see, we are now rousing the whole country according to your initiative to increase productivity and quality, and to make savings in resources; in general, to improve all indices. I have a good impression, a very good one. You know what is good? It is the feeling that the collective possesses great potential, that it can cope with resolving great tasks. The leading cadres are young, and the whole of the working staff is young. How much they can do! And the second impression, Comrade Gorbachev continued, is that the works is improving. It is perfecting its technological standards; after all, it is a young works. As I have been told, comrades, there are some questions. It is you that will have to resolve them; but you also need help. There are 400 of the country's enterprises connected with you, there are many suppliers. Well, the modern motor vehicle is a serious thing; so much is concentrated in it, starting with the technology and ending with the aesthetics. And the main thing is that you have the kind of produce where you must not stop and get big-headed; otherwise you will lose both economically and, most important, morally. I'll tell you plainly now, Mikhail Sergeyvich continued, so far no one is tackling the issues of technology or the transfer to production of new models better than the VAZ workers. There are still plenty of problems here, but what we have heard today gives rise to confidence that the work will continue. You have done a great deal, but there is a great deal ahead. I repeat, I have a good impression of the works and primarily of the people who work here. Do not forget, comrades, we are now bringing the whole country into line with VAZ, and you have nowhere to go but forward. And not just at walking pace, but with long strides. What is needed for this is to keep scientific-technological progress moving, to raise quality through new models;tThat is, everyone has to restructure everything. It is good that you are adopting methods of management in which the whole collective participates and seeks reserves for itself.

You ask how I like your town. I know you have a big town, and a lot of social problems have accumlated in it. We are discussing this as well. One must have a view to not letting the social sphere lag behind — housing, culture, and sports. The person has to live well and rest well, then he will work with another kind of efficiency. Production and social issues must not be set against each other. In the final analysis, why are we getting production moving? In order for living conditions to improve. And at the moment this is especially important, Comrade Gorbachev stressed.

The CPSU Central Committee's general secretary replied to questions from production workers. At the request of the motor vehicle builders, he talked about how work is going in the country to implement the party congress's decisions and he dwelled in detail on the problems of the struggle for peace and the ways for development of socialist democracy. Many workers spoke about the desire of the collective to strengthen discipline and to combat everything that puts a brake on our forward movement. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev wished the motor vehicle builders of VAZ fresh production success, good health, and happiness.

Tolyatti Workers Raise Problems

LD091655 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Report on the meeting of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, with representatives of the Tolyatti labor collectives at the Sintezkauchuk association Palace of Culture on 8 April — passages within quotation marks recorded; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] [Announcer] The floor is given to Viktor Vedorovich Chvanov, team-leader of a VAZ assembly workshop:

"[Chvanov] Comrades, we have started to approach our work more carefully, and we are identifying shortcomings in our work more boldly and honestly. We are searching more actively for ways of eliminating them. In short, we are exercising more initiative. All of us accepted the congress decisions as if they were our own. We approve with our hearts and minds and support the party's policies aimed at improving the life of the Soviet people under a peaceful sky.

"We very much liked the words in the congress Political Report concerning the fact that one cannot buy health at the drugstore. This is very true. You see, the health of the Soviet man is his greatest wealth. I must say, however, with regret, that there are still long lines to see doctors. Not everyone undergoes the obligatory medical checkup. There are difficulties with kindergartens and nurseries. Not everything has been done to organize leisure time well.

"Mikhail Sergeyevich, maybe you have already been told that the VAZ is still without its own palace of culture. Projects like this are being built very slowly. And, you see, this is up to us and our families; who else whould be responsible for speeding up their commissioning? Members of our team and the teams of Vladimir Krasnyakov, Vadim Podavalov, and Yuriy Shashkin have unanimously decided that this year each should work no fewer than 4 free days gratuitously on the construction of health care and prophylactics projects. [applause]"

[Announcer] Valentin Ivanovich Isakov, director of the Volzhskiy light vehicles production association, makes a speech:

[Isakov] Comrades, the association's collectives have started preparations for work in conditions of intensification of the national economy. Throughout teams, workshops, production works, and party organizations there has been a persistent search for reserves to raise the productivity and quality of labor and to accelerate renewal of output, production growth, and savings on all types of resources.

"It is well known that VAZ vehicles are in demand both at home and abroad. More than one-third of them are made for export, including more than 100,000 for capitalist countries. However, the technical level of our output has started lagging behind that of foreign models since the main base models were put into production 15 years ago. In order to preserve their ability to compete, vehicle workers have embarked on a program of accelerated renewal of output, which envisages mastering production of the (Oka) cars with very small engine capacity [mikrolitrazhnyy], design, and preparation for production of yet another new model, as well as major modernization of the majority of cars currently being produced, over the 12th 5-Year Plan.

"It is also planned to raise the technical level of output by doing the groundwork on promising designs no fewer than 5 years in advance. Together with the factory, a residential area has been built and continues to develop. More than 330,000 people now live there. The main contractor, the USSR Ministry of Power and Electriciation, and Comrade Mayorets, the minister, personally, display lack of understanding with regard to the solution of our social problems. Moreover, Comrade Mayorets has proposed in writing that the volume of housing construction should be halved in Avtozavodskiy Rayon alone. We are prepared, together with the builders — and we consider this to be our duty — to play an active part in the important work aimed at improving conditions for working, living, and relaxation provided for the factory's working people and the rayon. [applause]"

[Announcer] At the rostrum is Antonina Mikhaylovna Levina, operator at the Tolyattiazot production association:

[Levina] "Comrades: Moral health in the family is ensured by correct social policies. We women have seen with our own eyes that benefits have now been provided for working mothers in terms of a reduced working week and care for children, and we express ardent gratitude to the party and government for their attention to us. [applause] I am convinced that our women can and should take an active part in improving labor and leisure conditions at the association, indeed, in improving its work. Yet 1 month has already passed since the congress and things have not yet gotten going; a women's council has still not been set up. Something we are bothered about is the state of medical assistance for women workers, which is particularly unsatisfactory today at chemical enterprises. Our association does not have its own sports facilities, tourist base, or house of culture. As I understand it, this problem also exists at other chemical enterprises. Does not the fact that there is such a high turnover of personnel here stem from that?

"But there are some things we simply do not understand. For instance, in May 1982 we as citizens were filled with joy to learn that under a government decision [postanevleniye] no more harmful chemical manufacturing facilities were to be built in our town and that cleansing systems were to be built at all those already operating. But what actually happened? Six months later another decision [postanovleniye] was adopted and everything went back to the old way: the Kaprolaktam works is extended; more facilities manufacuting carbophosphates and ammonia are built. And this in a city where there are already five chemical works. Mikhail Sergeyevich, things must somehow be arranged so that economic bodies show great respect for their own decisions. [applause]"

[Announcer] Now the speaker is Sergey Ivanovich Agapov, leader of a Komsomol youth team at the vehicle works press shop:

[Agapov] "Esteemed comrades: Our city is rightly called a young people's city — the average age of its inhabitants is 29. One in four of them is a student. The majority of teams at its enterprises are Komsomol youth teams. And I have been

entrusted with heading one of them, in the VAZ press shop, by the party committee and the administration at the shop. Our team is a united family, with tight labor and production discipline. We take pride in the fact that our works has become a school for frontranking labor organization and intensification of production and a venue for the conduct of a most important economic experiment backed by the 27th CPSU Congress. All of this gives a lift to our working mood and makes for good wages.

"But that is not the only thing VAZ workers have on their minds today. The way everyday life and leisure are organized and the spiritual growth and upbringing of children are no less important tasks. That is why our team ardently supports the initiative by the team of welders from the (?welding section) which was announced today by Viktor Chvanov, not only to work in exemplary fashion at our own workplace but to take an active part in the building of health care and social and cultural amenities. We ae also adopting a pledge to work at least four work-free shifts on these most important building projects in the district. [applause]"

[Announcer] The meeting was also addressed by Sergey Ivanovich Turgin, first secretary of the Tolyatti Gorkom, and by Valeriy Nikolayevich Kazachok, a designer at the Volga vehicle works.

Meets Kuybyshev Workers

LD100021 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Report from Kuybyshev Oblast by unidentified special correspondents; from the "Vremya" newsast]

[Text] [Correspondent] Today Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev visited the Kuybyshev machine tool building production association workshops and sections and conversed with the workers of this enterprise. In the brief time allotted for acceleration, would the machine tool builders be able to create machine tools, automatic production lines, and processing centers that would be competitive on the world market and that could compete with the output of the best foreign factories? Not merely up to the average standard, as was stated yesterday in Tolyatti, but to the best in the world? [Video shows Gorbachev and retinue approaching a building, then being shown around the works and a display of products]

Balmont, minister of the machine tool building industry, and Solovyev and Revinskiy, the enterprise directors who were explaining things, stressed that the mechanical side compares with the most modern requirements; whereas the electronic side, the numerical program units, are as yet inferior to the foreign ones. Only with an intergrated approach and with coordinated works by the machine tool builders and their partners can the tasks set by the party congress be resolved. Kuybyshev machine tools are currently working in 37 countries. They have been awarded medals and diplomas at exhibitions at home and abroad.

[Begin video recording] [Unidentified man] We fully understand that [words indistinct] regarding quality.

[Gorbachev] But all this was in the past.

[Man] No, this...

[Gorbachev interrupts] But, I mean, all this was won in the past. All this is fine [words indistinct].

[Man] [Words indistinct] for the consistently high quality of our machine tools.

[Gorbachev] The director told us about the situation.

[Man] [passage indistinct]

[Gorbachev] (?Twenty percent, 25 percent), even 50 percent is not enough. We need multiples, 3, 5, 10 times as much, that's what's needed. Otherwise we shall just be marking time. [end recording]

[Correspondent] The conversation about the production problems of the Kuybyshev machine tool builders was in effect a continuation of the major talks yesterday in Tolyatti.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev also visited the Red Star garment production association in Kuybyshev.

[Begin video recording, showing Mikhail and Raisa Gorbachev shaking hands with female workers] [Gorbachev] So how are things wity you, foreman?

[Foreman] Well, how shall I put it, rather poor, overall.

[Gorbachev] Rather poor? We specially adopted a resolution in order to support the sewing industry workers. [Several voices say: We know]

[Foreman] But the workers haven't yet felt the effect of this.

[Gorbachev] Well, stand firm, foreman, stand firm. This is the most important thing. By the way, we are now also working in the government and in the economic bodies in order to enhance on the whole the foreman's role.

[Foreman] (?People here are very loyal to the foreman.)

[Gorbachev] One simply needs [words indistinct] people. As a rule a foreman is such a person who takes on the most improtant things. Thus a good foreman has the solid backing of the director and all the others. For this reason it is necessary to [words indistinct]. [end recording]

[Correspondent] In the conversation with the workers, it was stressed that clothes are precisely the kind of output that is always in the public view. The Kuybyshev sewing industry workers have not yet succeeded in winning the customers' confidence.

[Begin video recording, showing Gorbachev addressing workers]

[Gorbachev] For this reason you should produce these garments in small batches, and then you'll see which are being bought and which aren't. How can you manage without that? Man must eat, drink, clothe himself, and have housing. That is the first thing.

After all, all the rest starts [words indistinct].

[Unidentified woman] And satisfying the demand is the most important.

[Second unidentified woman] We still have not received the equipment.

[Gorbachev] Oh, I shall tell you (?frankly that we are taking the first step.)

[Unidentified woman] We would like fabrics in beautiful colors. Our patterns are good but the fabrics are not appropriate (?and so the clothes aren't attractive.) The colors are so very gloomy that we would like to call on our textile workers to pay great attention to this and to supply beautiful colors.

[Second unidentified woman] So that they gladden the customer's eye.

[Gorbachev] You need to cooperate well with your suppliers.

[Woman] We are on friendly terms with them.

[Gorbachev] I say that the people who supply good fabrics are good. We have already had a look at some good fabric, the gray material.

[Woman] Yes.

[Gorbachev] You should say thank you to them and write a letter.

[Woman] Yes.

[Gorbachev] And when the quality is not good, send a delegation and pursue the matter thoroughly.

[Woman] Our output is not selling; that's what grieves us.

[Gorbachev] But given the fact that you care about things, matters will improve.

[Woman] Yes. [end recording]

[Correspondent] At the enterprise there are high-class foremen, veterans who have worked for 30 years or more. But the majority are young people, graduates from vocational technical colleges.

[Begin video recording, showing Gorbachev chatting with workers] [Unidentified woman] Here is my team [words indistinct].

[Gorbachev] How many are there in the team?

[Woman] Twelve people (?minimum) [words indistinct].

[Gorbachev] Are they young?

[Woman] Yes, young people.

[Gorbachev] That is good then.

[Woman] Of course, it's good.

[Unidentified man] She finished the 5-year plan in 1983.

[Gorbachev] Is there a turnover in the team [word indistinct]?

[Woman] People are leaving.

[Gorbachev] People are leaving? Why?

[Woman] People want family accomodation. There it is. Apart from that, everything's good, Mikhail Sergeyevich.

[Gorbachev] But they are not leaving because of the working conditions?

[Woman] No, we have good conditions. We fulfill the plan....

[Gorbachev interrupts] It's very hard work, it's hard work. And the main thing is [words indistinct].

[Woman] It is the first time in 35 years that I have had the opportunity to meet...

[Gorbachev interrupts] Thank you. [end recording]

[Correspondent] The female workers stressed that it is necessary to complete more rapidly the elaboration of the economic mechanism of management in light industry in order to put an end to the gross volume approach to matters and to provide the maximum incentive to workers in this industry in increasing production and sale of high quality goods.

[Begin video recording, showing Gorbachev outside factory talking to workers] [Gorbachev] One must help the factory, that's the main thing.

[Unidentified woman] We are trying.

[Gorbachev] We see it like this: There is a backbone in the factory, around which if you consolidate yourselves and the young people and everything, then you can produce good-quality products. Technology is still needed; good, better fabrics are still needed. We have just been shown your experimental shop. There are good patterns; there is good taste. That is very good.

[Unidentified woman] Brilliant things.

[Gorbachev] Well, you probably heard me saying yesterday how we are planning (?to build). Considering that the sewing industry is today a very important sector and that there is still much censure on this score against the manufactured goods, we have adopted a decision to increase the level of wages in the sewing industry a little. Now I would like to thank you for what you are doing; but one must also take into account the complaints leveled at you, especially if they come from the buyers. After all, you are buyers yourselves. When you go into other stores, selling goods other than yours, you also look — I don't like this, I don't like that — you make critical observations. And so it is with your output. Generally, I would like to wish that sewing workers improve the quality; that is the main thing — quality.

As for the quantity, we now have enough of a lot of things — well, there are some shortages of particular things, but in principle there are now a lot of goods and sewn articles, a lot. But now quality (?must be improved). That is the main thing. (?Let me address) [words indistinct] and those who make domestic appliances — everyone who is producing consumer goods: we are relying on you. I wish you all the best. [applause][end recording]

Further on Kuybyshev Meetings

LD091451 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] The meeting of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, with the working people of the town and oblast of Kuybyshev is continuing for the third day. In the workshops of works and factories, and in the streets, frank and businesslike conversations strike up. To put the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress more quickly into concrete actions, to convert the energy of ideas into the energy of practical actions — such is the mood of the working people of one of the country's largest industrial regions.

Today Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev visited the workers of the machine tool building association. The conversation concerned the course of the reconstruction of the enterprise, the production of flexible production modules, and automatic machine tools at a level surpassing world standards, and the social and everyday conditions of the workers' labor and life.

In the conversations many of them noted that the working class is ready to toil in a new way and responds to the decisions of the 27th party congress on stepping up social and economic development of Soviet society with concrete actions. In the working environment, the initiative of the VAZ workers to work no fewer than four free days this year on construction sites for social and public purposes aroused deep interest. The VAZ workers have thought up a good thing, Comrade Gorbachev said, and it is good that the machine tool builders support it.

The adjustment of one of the units just assembled is being carried out by the young engineer and researcher Sergey Zakharov. The decisions of the 27th party congress, he thinks, teach one the main thing: not to be satisfied with what you have achieved. We stand in front of a multipurpose machine tool with numerical program control, just assembled, and we want to praise ourselves: Look, we say, what remarkable equipment we are making. He is convinced that as soon as you think that everything is in order, you fall behind. Reconstruction in the country, at every enterprise and work station, which has gathered momentum since the congress, is a process that has no end but begins when a man realizes, convinces himself, that the main thing lies ahead.

At the age of 29, Sergey Zakharov has learned to critically evaluate what has been achieved. After leaving school he entered the association and joined the VAZ technical college. He mastered the trade of turning and became a recognized master; but he did not stop there. He enrolled at the Kuybyshev Polytechnical Institute. He finished at the institute and returned to production work, which he came to love. He took part in the serial assimilation of the best — for its time, machinery with the association's brand. I am confident, the engineer says, that the decisions of the congress have reached every work station, and that is the main thing. The people's initiative has entered into stepping up reconstruction and rebuilding. The association has made available to its neighbors one of the workshop bays; the Kuybyshev Middle Volga machine tool building works displays its new output here. Among them are two machining centers which the collective manufactured ahead of schedule — such a pledge was adopted by the Volga workers in honor of the party congress, and they fulfilled it.

The machine tools under discussion are not just well-produced output; this is machinery of the fourth generation, essential for achieving a higher level of production automation and for organizing unmanned technology. In their conversations, the machine tool builders said that Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's speech at his meeting with the workers of the town of Tolyatti had entered the souls of the workers. Everyone draws his own conclusion, said a master of the workshop Comrade Malakhayev: Personally, I think that if our machine tools are excellent, then everything else will be in order — the machines, the instruments, and the goods. We all liked the frank, confiding tone of the speech. I understand it like this: The party is addressing every worker, and it receives a response from each. After his meeting with the machine tool builders, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev visited the Kuybyshev Krasnaya Zvezda factory. One of the oldest garment enterprises in the Volga region, the factory produces womens' and childrens' clothing. They know how to work here, but things do not always turn out as desired. There is currently a difficult situation at the factory. The tasks for March — and for the first quarter — have not been fulfilled. What is the matter? An answer to this is provided by a conversation that took place at the enterprise.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev: Why has your labor productivity, compared with factories similar to yours, fallen by 20 percent?

Comrade Romashikhin, general manager of the association: Our premises are not at all suited to the machinery. Mechanization has fallen behind.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev: Things are bad when the manager talks like that. A manager ought to find ways of solving problems in any situation.

Comrade Komarova, cutters' team leader: Young people do not stay with us. There is a shortage of housing. I have worked for 34 years without leaving this table. But young people do leave, after 2 of 3 years.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev: Incidentally, they say that you do know how to sew. If you happen to get materials which are not bad, you produce good output.

Comrade Komarova: Yes, our articles do not sit too long in the shops. We do not have a single complaint. But we do need the textile workers to give us good quality, modern materials with vibrant and varied coloring.

Comrade Gorbachev: Tell me, are materials poor nevertheless?

Comrade Yepirina, head of the stock-preparation shop: A great deal of it is of poor quality, especially those that are used for coats, in respect of coloring and manufacture alike. The trouble is that the state all-union standard of the sewing industry workers does not correspond to the textile industry workers' state all-union standard. We have to sew first-category garments out of second- and third-category materials. That is why we expend twice or three times as much labor as we should.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev: It is necessary to make demands of the textile workers, to give them deadlines. For the time being, we will still take your output, you say; but if you fail to reorganize in half a year or a year, we will have no need for your materials. But, generally speaking, do bear in mind that tailors have always been inventive people, able to skillfully respond to the changes in styles. This, of course, does not remove the questions you have been talking about. I think that everyone must pull up his socks: textile workers and you alike. It is necessary to establish good ties and businesslike relations with the suppliers. Your work is good and needed; but it is not trouble free. You know yurselves: You go to a shop and one thing you do not like, another one is not quite right, well, if only the collar was so, and the sleeve was different, if the buttons were of another variety — this is a matter of taste. That is why, naturally, you need to produce small batches of output and to see what is popular and what is not popular. It is necessary to cooperate with one's related enterprises and to say thank you to the good ones, to write them a letter, to tell about it through the paper. But if the related enterprises are working badly, send your delegation there and rebuke them thoroughly for poor quality. Your concern is understandable. But, once you have taken your work to heart, it will begin to improve.

Without shirking responsibility for output quality, sewing industry workers justifiably complain about the poor quality of materials. Last year they had to return R1,254,000 worth of output to suppliers. The Leningrad Telman fine cloth combine in particular supplies a great deal of poor materials. It breaks one's heart — it is a pity that work is expended to produce output which people do not like — this is how Comrade Shishova, a cutter, expressed the work force's view.

Tatyana Viktorovna is a young Communist. She joined the party together with her seven work colleagues after the 27th CPSU Congress. People who swell the ranks of the works party organization are active, demanding of themselves and of others. In conditions of a shortage of manpower, they do not sit idly by, having mastered several related operations.

Yet another conversation took place in the works' area. Assembled here were not just the workers of the enterprise, but also inhabitants of the neighboring districts of the town. They voiced their support for the party's course and gratitude for an honest and candid dialogue with the working class.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said: We have familiarized ourselves with the works, saw your output, and visited an experimental shop. The samples were good and tasteful and this is very good. There are still numerous complaints about the output produced by one of important sections of the sewing industry. I am confident that both new equipment and new lines will soon be in the factory. I would like to say to you: Thank you for what you are doing. And you should also take into account what remarks tell you, especially if these are made by the customers. You yourselves are customers, too. When you go to another shop, not one that stocks your output, you, too, are looking: This thing you like, another one you do not like; you voice remarks. The same things happen as far your output is concerned. Your job is not trouble free. Every day people see what you produce. That is why it is necessary to improve work, so that one gets pleasure from acquiring, so that one's purchase improves the way one feels, so that one also feels comfortable. In general, I want to wish sewing industry workers that they enhance their quality: quality is the main thing. And this pertains to everyone, sewing industry workers, footwear manufacturers, household appliance producers alike, to all those who produce consumer goods. We hope that you will be able to solve your tasks and sharply enhance the quality of the output produced. I wish you all the best.

Gorbachev Departs Kuybyshev for Moscow

Seen Off by Muravyev

LD091415 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] This afternoon CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev left Kuybyshev for Moscow. He was seen off at the airport by First Secretary of the Oblast CPSU Committee, Comrade Muravyev; members of the Office of the Kuybyshev party oblast committee; and leaders of a number of ministries and departments.

Aliyev, Others Greet Gorbachev

LD091534 Moscow TASS in English 1525 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 9 TASS — Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has today returned from Kuybyshev to Moscow. At the airport he was welcomed by members of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, among them Geydar Aliyev, Vitaliy Vorotnikov, Yegor Ligachev, Nikolay Ryzhkov, Mikhail Solomentsev, Viktor Chebrikov, Eduard Shevardnadze, and other officials.

Gromyko Arrives in Sverdlovsk 9 April

LD091611 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, arrived in Sverdlovsk today. He was met at the airport by Comrade Petrov, first secretary of the Sverdlovsk Obkom; Comrade Lobov, chairman of the oblispolkom; and by other representatives of the oblast and town organizations.

Further on Supreme Soviet Presidium Resolution

PM090832 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Apr 86 Morning Edition pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "At the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium: On Soviets' Tasks Stemming From the 27th CPSU Congress Decisions"]

[Text] As has already been reported, a session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on 31 March examined the question of Soviets' tasks stemming from the 27th CPSU Congress decisions.

The resolution adopted on this question stresses that the 27th CPSU Congress was an outstanding event in the life of the party and the Soviet people.

The CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th party congress, delivered by Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the congress resolution on the report, the new edition of the CPSU Program, and the Basic Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1986-1990 and the Period Through the Year 2000 are documents of tremendous historical significance. They determine from Leninist positions the strategy of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development, raising Soviet people's well-being to a qualitatively new level, further democratizing society, deepening the people's socialist self-management, and struggling for peace and social progress. The congress materials showed with the utmost clarity the soviets' role and place in implementing the party's innovative course, improving all aspects of the Soviet state's progressive development, and mobilizing the masses to implement the tasks set.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolved to adopt the 27th CPSU Congress decisions for steadfast guidance and execution.

Soviets of people's deputies are instructed to consolidate the businesslike mood set by the congress and the atmosphere that it created — one of high principeldness and the frank exposure and resolute elimination of shortcomings and omissions. They are to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of the party's demands for the all-around improvement of soviets' activity and to increase their role and responsibility in all spheres of state, economic, and sociocultural building.

They are to participate most actively in the practical implementation of the party's program guidelines on transferring the national economy an intensive path of development on the basis of the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and make a concrete contribution to improving management, fundamentally improving the quality of all work, carrying out social policy, and deepening socialist democracy.

Soviets' most important task is to persistently pursue the party's modern agrarian policy, substantially improve the population's supply of foodstuffs, ensure the fulfillment of the Comprehensive Program for Developing the Production of Consumer Goods and the Services Sphere, and increasing the contribution made by each republic, kray, and oblast, each sector of the national economy, and all labor collectives to resolving these tasks.

Soviets are instructed to work actively to fulfill and overfulfill the plan targets and socialist pledges for 1986 and the 12th 5-Year Plan as a whole. Special attention is to be paid to questions of saving fuel, electricity, metal, and other materials and to showing daily concern for nature conservation and the rational utilization of natural resources.

Soviets are advised to examine at their sessions the tasks stemming from the 27th CPSU Congress decisions; to analyze organizational and political education work in a comprehensive, exacting, and self-critical way and in the spirit of the party's demands; and to formulate and implement practical measures to carry out the congress' guidelines. The decisions and plans to be adopted must be specific in character, must indicate schedules and those responsible for carrying them out, and must be imbued with a spirit of responsibility to the people for their execution.

It must be ensured that soviets' organization of the execution of the 27th party congress decisions is the basis of the activity of each organ of state power.

Efforts must be focused on strengthening organization and discipline and overcoming mismanagement, inertia, and conservatism, while striving to ensure that soviets at all levels act resourcefully and responsibly, making full use of the powers afforded by the USSR Constitution and the law.

The attention of union and autonomous republic Supreme Soviets, their presidiums, and standing commissions should center on the key questions of accelearating economic and sociocultural development, increasing each republic's contribution to strengthening the country's integrated national economic complex, and improving the style and methods of leadership of the activity of soviets below them.

Republic supreme soviets are instructed to work persistently to develop and improve legislation, to ensure the strict and steadfast execution of laws, and to step up their influence on the introduction of economic management methods and on monitoring the amount of labor and consumption.

Soviets must increase the effectiveness of their monitoring of subordinate organs and gear it more toward end results and the elimination of shortcomings. Fuller use must be made of the constitutional provisions on regular reporting by union and autonomous republic council of ministers, ministries and departments, and other state organs to supreme soviets and their presidiums. Reports must be businesslike, self-critical, and searching and must avoid bureaucratic formalism.

There must be close cooperation between soviets and trade unions, the Komsomol, and other social organizations. Sessions of soviets, supreme soviet presidiums, union and autonomous republic councils of ministers, and local soviet ispolkoms must regularly discuss their proposals, particularly on questions of the situation in individual sectors of the economy and on regional development.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has instructed soviets to step up their work to mobilize the masses to accelerate society's socioeconomic and spiritual development. They must compre-

hensively promote the creation of the conditions for the active involvement of all working people and their collectives in resolving questions of state and social life. Using the unconditional fulfillment of state plans as a basis, there must be a fundamental breakthrough in ensuring comprehensive economic and social development on their territories and the autonomous resolution of local tasks. The leadership of state organs, enterprises, institutions, and organizations under soviets' jurisdiction must be stepped up. Within the limits of their competence, they must pay constant attention to the coordination and monitoring of the activity of superior enterprises and organizations.

Measures must be persistently implemented with the aim of providing people with well-equipped housing; improving the quality of work of all enterprises, institutions, and organizations in trade, public catering, transport, health care, public education, housing and municipal services, and the consumer services sphere; and satisfying citizens' needs for preschool education. It is necessary to comprehensively promote the development of mass physical culture and sport, the organization of people's meaningful leisure, the assertion of a healthy way of life, and the elimination of drunkenness and alcoholism.

Soviets must show special concern for political education and mass cultural work with the population, primarily with young people; for molding Soviet people's scientific world outlook; and for instilling devotion to the ideas of communism, Soviet patriotism and internationalism, high moral qualities, and a conscientious attitude to labor and social duty. They must actively promote the creation of the organizational, moral, and material preconditions for the all-around development of creativity; the bold search for solutions; and socialist enterprise and help to assert the principles of social justice.

Guided by the tested principles of Lenin's nationalities policy, soviets must pay constant attention to developing and deepening the fraternal friendship of the USSR peoples, enriching national cultures, and making use of all the best things provided by the spiritual heritage and traditions of each of our country's peoples.

Soviets have been notified of the need to achieve in practice a determined change in the content and style of their work in accordance with the party's requirements and to ensure the improvement of democratic principles in administration and efficiency and promptness in the work of their executive and administrative organs.

Soviet sessions must be more effective; the analytical and monitoring activity of standing commissions must be intensified, the practice of deputies' questions and openness in work must be expanded, and the population must be better informed about decisions taken and progress in fulfilling them. It is necessary to ensure the strict observance of the requirements governing regular and meaningful reporting by ispolkoms and leaders of management organs and courts to labor collectives and meetings of the population.

It is necessary to enhance the role of people's deputies in resolving the tasks facing soviets, their social activeness and initiative within the soviet and its organs, in production and electoral districts, and the real responsibility of each deputy to voters and labor collectives.

Soviets and their executive and administrative organs must ensure the tactful and considerate examination of citizens' specific suggestions and requests and not allow manifestations of departmentalism, local favoritism, bureaucracy, or indifference to their requests.

Sessions of soviet, ispolkoms, standing commissions, and deputies' groups must create an atmosphere of professionalism and exactingness and afford extensive opportunities for criticism and self-criticism, a frank exchange of opinions, the objective evaluation of results, and the elaboration of concrete decisions.

The practice of discussing topical questions and draft soviet decisions within labor collectives and in local neighborhoods must be improved; and more effective use must be made of such channels of development of direct democracy as citizens' meetings, voters' instructions, the press, radio, and television, working people's letters, and other means of expression of public opinion. The implementation of the democratic principles and norms enshrined in the Law on Labor Collectives must be ensured in practice.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium expressed confidence that soviets at all levels, having joined in the creative activity to fulfill the 27th party congress decisions, will ensure the further intensification of the effectiveness of Soviet people's power and will make a concrete and weighty contribution to implementing the party's economic strategy and social policy and the resolution of all the other tasks facing them.

Aliyev Addresses Ministry of Railways Collegium

LD092041 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] There was an extended session of the Collegium of the Ministry of Railways in Moscow today. Tasks for workers in railway transport to fulfill the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress were discussed. A report was delivered by Minister for Railways Comrade Konarev.

It was stressed at the session that great responsibility has been laid upon railway workers for the reliable and full satisfaction of the requirements of the national economy and the population for transport. Successful fulfilment of the plans for the social and economic development of the country for 1986 and the entire 12th 5-Year Plan will depend to a considerable extent on the efforts of railway workers and their precise and well-coordinated work. Great attention was paid to radical improvement in the style and methods of work from raising the responsibility of cadres for the task entrusted to them and to strengthening discipline and to the safety of train traffic. A wide program of solutions to social and domestic issues and for the improvement of work and everyday conditions for railwaymen was mapped out. The session was addressed by Comrade Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Ligachev, Demichev Attend Drama Production
LD091334 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 9 Apr 86

[Text] Performance of the best plays prepared by creative collectives of the country in honor of the 27th CPSU Congress continues in Moscow. On 8 April the audience acquainted themselves with a presentation from the Novosibirsk Krasnyy Fakel Drama theater, "The Commission" [Kommissiya] from Zalygin's novel of the same name. The play is produced by Reznikovich, People's Artist of the Ukrainian SSR, and tells of events taking place in a remote Siberian village soon after Great October. At the center of it lies a vivid and original image of Russian peasants coming to the defense of the gains of the revolution. Muscovites visiting the play, performed at Vakhtangov Theater, warmly greeted the author of the play and the collective of the Novosibirsk Theater. Comrades Ligachev and Demichev were present at the play.

Dolgikh Addresses Maritime Fleet Collegium Session
LD082200 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 8 Apr 86

[Text] An extended sitting of the Collegium of the Ministry of the Maritime Fleet and the Presidium of the associated trade union Central Committee took place today in Moscow. It discussed the tasks of collectives, enterprises, and organizations in carrying out the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress. A report was delivered by Comrade Guzhenko, minister of the maritime fleet. Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, made a speech at the session.

Economist Analyzes Social Policy Spending
PM080908 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 4 Apr 86 p 3

[Doctor of Economic Sciences G. Sarkisyan article: "Toward an Active Social Policy. The 27th CPSU Congress on the Key Tasks of Enhancing the People's Prosperity"]

[Text] The social program put forward by the 27th CPSU Congress proceeds from the premise that, on the one hand, the improvement of people's life must be inseparably linked with the enhancement of their labor contribution. On the other hand, transformations in labor and the solution of social questions are perceived as important conditions for the growth of the labor contribution made by society, the collective, and the worker.

It must be noted that negative processes in the national economy's development in the seventies and early eighties prevented the complete fulfillment of the social program planned for that period. Central and local organs were guilty of underestimating pressing social problems. The bias in favor of technocratic approaches diminished the attention given to the social problems of labor, daily life, and leisure and to the monitoring of the extent of labor and consumption. All this diminished the role of the human factor in all spheres of life and people's interest in high labor results.

The program task of achieving a qualitatively new state of society demanded from social policy a certain specificity in the solution of problems. In the consumption sphere, we are not talking about increasing consumption in general but about reaching or approaching the level of scientifically substantiated norms of rational consumption over three 5-year plan periods. In order to solve the housing problem, it is envisaged not simply to increase per capita housing area but to ensure a separate apartment for virtually every family. In the labor sphere we are faced with the task not only of reducing manual labor more rapidly but of bringing its proportion in the production sphere down to 15-20 percent, in other words, to reducing it to a minimum. In the health care sphere it is planned to implement a transition to universal medical checks for the population, and in the education sphere to establish a unified system of continuous education.

Priority significance ir given to these and other key tasks of enhancing the people's prosperity. Their solution must become the starting point in the elaboration of planning, economic, and technical decisions. The congress demanded from planning and management organs a resolute turnabout in the direction of social sphere needs, and from the economic and party cadres — the ability to correctly determine the scope and priority of solutions to social tasks and the ability to seek out the most rational ways leading to the set goals.

The acceleration of social development is dictated primarily by the need to overcome the tendency toward a slowing of the rate of growth of living standards. Over the three last 5-year plan periods the average annual growth of real per capita income fell by almost two-thirds. Over the next three 5-year plan periods this income is due to increase by 60-80 percent. Its absolute growth will be approximately equal to its growth over the last 40 years.

The material base for this will be created in the current 5-year plan period: Capital investments are planned to increase by 25 percent against the 16 percent increase during the last 5-year plan period. The share of accumulation in the national income will also increase somewhat. But the corresponding reduction of the share of the consumption fund will be largely compensated by the accelerated growth of national income. This is why the absolute growth of this fund will rise from R55 billion in the 11th 5-Year Plan period to R74 billion in the 12th 5-Year Plan period.

Social labor is the basis for the planned socioeconomic transformations Labor is currently at the top or near the top in the system of Soviet people's sets of value, and is becoming man's main vital need. Naturally, its economic role as the basic source of material and spiritual wealth is also growing. The long-term plans provide for preferential rates of social labor productivity growth in comparison with national income and industrial output.

Particular significance is given to the intensification of the orientation of scientific and technical progress toward the solution of social problems in the labor sphere. The basic role here has been assigned to technological reconstruction. As the 27th party congress emphasized, it must have a clear social direction. An increase in the scale and pace of the reduction of manual labor by at least a factor of 2-3 will make it possible to release more than 20 million persons from unskilled labor in 15 years and more

than 5 million in the current 5-year plan period. This will make it possible to channel almost the entire growth of labor resources into the nonproduction sphere — education, health care, and other social sectors. Hitherto this growth has been shared approximately equally between them and the production sphere. Moreover, and it is important to stress this, the release of workers from current production and their balanced redistribution among the sectors and spheres of the national economy will take place while ensuring the population's full and effective employment.

Ideas about manpower shortages have been dominant among scientists and practitioners, including planning workers, in the last few years. Particular emphasis here has been placed on the decline in the growth of the able-bodied population. Of course, this decline cannot fail to have an effect on the availability of cadres for the national economy. Under contemporary circumstances, however, the question of their availability or shortage can be solved correctly only from the positions of the requisite correlation between the number of those employed, the level of labor productivity, and the number of jobs available. It is obvious that any conclusions about a shortage of labor resources can be justified only from the viewpoint of the extensive development of production. If the situation were to be evaluated with due consideration for the economy's intensive development, there is in fact no manpower shortage.

Distribution relationships have a major role to play in the activation of social policy. The task that has been set is to step up the influence of these relationships on the acceleration of the growth of production efficiency and to enhance the motivational significance not only of wages but also of social consumption funds and the distribution of housing and other material, social, and spiritual benefits. Nevertheless, the remuneration of labor — the basic source of the population's incomes — has been and remains the main lever for boosting the working people's motivation.

According to data from sociological studies, 98 percent of those questioned consider industriousness and a conscientious attitude toward labor to be the most important factors for prosperity in life. But only 25-35 percent of those asked strive constantly to work better, with initiative, and creatively. Approximately one in every five persons asked has a highly passive attitude [otnositsya s nizkoy aktivnostyu] toward labor, often breaches discipline, and fails to meet targets. The remainder — and they account for more than half — are distinguished by average labor activeness and a conscientious but unenterprising attitude. This is why I think that it is very important to step up incentives for labor among this section of working people and to boost the prestige of high-quality work and vocational skills and the accountability of those who approach their obligations unconscientiously.

One of the topical problems is to improve the differentiation in wages according to real differences in labor and its results. In the sixties and seventies wage differences were eliminated more swiftly than differences in labor. In the next few years it is necessary to ensure preferential growth for the wages of skilled workers, engineering and technical personnel, and specialists. At present the average monthly wage of engineering and technical personnel in industry is on average 17 percent higher than that of workers, while in the construction industry it is actually 2 percent lower.

The wage and salary rates of workers and employees are planned to increase during the 12th 5-Year Plan period. The average increase will be 25-30 percent, including a 30-35 percent increase for engineering and technical personnel. In production sectors this increase will be basically funded out of and within the limits of the funds earned by the actual collectives. This method has undergone experimental trials on the Belorussian Railroad. Any savings in the wages fund there are used not for additional payments but for increases in wage and salary rates.

The 27th CPSU Congress decisions emphasize the need to enhance the role of social consumption funds in the implementation of the principle of social justice. Thanks to these funds, increasingly equal conditions are being created for satisfying people's most important social and spiritual needs and providing material security for those unable to work. But the fair distribution of these funds does not mean leveling. Inadequate use is made of their potential to encourage skilled and conscientious labor. There is now a need to intensify the link between labor and pension provision and to grant production front-rankers more privileges in the distribution of apartments and free services.

Some economists propose changes in the relative growth of social consumption funds and wages funds and the intensification of the latter's motivating role. The need, one would think, is not to redistribute resources between these sources of the population's income but to use them in a balanced and equally active fashion in social policy. Indeed, the CPSU Program sets the task of ensuring accelerated growth and improved distribution of social consumption funds. Their volume is planned to increase by 20-23 percent during the 12th 5-Year Plan period as against a planned 19-22 percent growth of national income used for consumption and accumulation. This growth will help the implementation of an active demographic policy and the further improvement of material, social, and daily life conditions for war and labor veterans, families with children, and young families.

Balance between the population's money incomes and commodity resources is an absolute condition for the planned development of distribution relationships. The resolution of this task involves not only the bolstering of incentives for labor but also the overcoming of negative phenomena originating from shortages and irrational expenditure of free time. It is important not only to increase the availability of commodities to meet the population's rising money incomes, but also to create equal conditions for satisfying the demand by social groups and residents in different parts of the country. This is one of the requirements for consistent implementation of the principles of social justice.

Analysis shows that the population's demand for services is as yet satisfied to a lesser degree than the demand for material wealth. The share of services in the population's total expenditure does not exceed 10 percent and has not increased for a long time, even though demand for them has been rising faster than demand for commodities. This hinders the achievement of balance between the population's incomes and commodity resources and distorts the structure of general demand. This is why resolute measures

must be implemented in the 12th 5-Year Plan period to overcome these imbalances, primarily through services alleviating household labor, the provision of amenities and repairs to apartments, tourism, and motor vehicle technical services, the demand for which is growing particularly rapidly.

Particular social significance is given to accelerating the solution of the housing problem. Priority will be given to the appropriation of state funds for housing, social, and cultural construction in newly developed regions, particularly Siberia, the North, and the Far East. At the same time, it is necessary to consistently implement the policy of working collectives tackling the improvement of housing conditions and funding it from funds they have earned themselves. There is great potential in cooperative housing construction and also in individual construction funded by people's own funds, state credits, and assistance from enterprises.

Substantial help in solving the housing problem more rapidly can be provided by fair changes in the system of payment for housing. Apartment rents at present are calculated only on the basis of living area rather than total area. Substantial differences exist here, and they become even greater as the area of auxiliary premises expands. This intensifies inequality in payments for housing. Moreover, there is no practical differentiation in apartment rental rates depending on the quality of housing, and these rates are insufficiently dependent on housing availability norms. Therefore, those who enjoy excess housing area are not motivated to give it up, despite paying triple excess charges. It emerges that essentially, while there is equal pay for equal labor, the principle of equal payment for unequal housing conditions is in operation.

Some economists propose that apartment rents be differentiated according to family incomes. Such an amendment would mean a breach of the principle of distribution according to labor. After all, the problem is not that apartment rents are independent of families' financial position but that they are practically unrelated to the total area and quality of housing. Hence we are talking about the need to make them more closely linked to the consumer qualities of housing and the degree to which housing exceeds the normative relating to the availability of useful space.

The further boosting of people's prosperity is directly dependent on the efficiency of social production and the improvement of end national economic results. This, and this alone, provides the main foundation of our society's social viability and the augmenting of its social potential.

RSFSR Ministers Views West Siberia Development

PM070832 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 2 Apr 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] At a routine session the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium has discussed the fulfillment of tasks in the implementation of the comprehensive program for the development of the West Siberian oil and gas industry by ministries and departments. Attention was focused on the accelerated development of the region's social infrastructure, in whose improvement local soviets are assigned an important role. It was noted that the West Siberian oil and gas complex is still insufficiently provided with housing, preschool establishments, consumer service enterprises, and health care and cultural facilities and that a number of ministries systematcially fail to meet plans for the commissioning of these essential projects.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers has issued specific instructions to oblispolkoms, ministries, and departments which provide for the elimination of the lag that has been allowed to build up in order to ensure the timely and comprehensive fulfillment of the comprehensive program for the development of the West Siberian oil and gas industry.

The republic Council of Ministers Presidium discussed serious shortcomings in the mode of operation of enterprises, organizations, and establishments providing services for the population in Sakhalin Oblast. It was noted that similar shortcomings exist in the consumer service sphere in other parts of the RSFSR. The RSFSR Council of Ministers has instructed local soviets, ministries, and departments to ensure that enterprises providing services for the population operate at hours convenient for the majority of the working people.

Other questions pertaining to life in the republic were also discussed at the RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium session.

Armenian Commerce Minister Dismissed on Corruption

HK060742 Hong Kong AFP in English 0729 GMT 6 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, April 6 (AFP) — Stepan Safarian, commerce minister in the southern Soviet republic of Armenia has been sacked "for letting corruption develop," the local party paper *KOMMUNIST* said in an edition which arrived here Sunday.

KOMMUNIST said that three deputy commerce ministers, accused of failing to carry out party recommendations in the fight against theft and corruption, had been sanctioned, but did not give further details. It said that cases of theft, corruption and speculation in consumer goods had been highlighted in Armenia in the past two years, but no sanctions were taken against those responsible. The paper quoted the case of a clothes and shoe company director who was found guilty of corruption, but was not convicted.

Agricultural Developments for 7-9 Apr Reported

LD100219 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated on 7-9 April. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

Moscow April 7 TASS — This spring another 100,000 hectares of land will be irrigated in the Soviet Union. Water will be fed to new wheat, maize and vegetable fields in the southern steppes of the Ukraine, Northern Caucasus and the lower Volga. There will also be oases in the Central Asian desert, *MN INFORMATION* writes. The plan for the current five-year development period (1986-1990) envisages putting under cultivation 3.3 and 3.6 million hectares of irrigated drained land respectively. The huge figures are explained by the fact that unfavourable natural conditions affect all lands. About 60 percent of the cultivated lands in the USSR lie in the zone of inadequate humidity. Approximately 80 million hectares of plowlands suffer from over-humidity and lack of heat. Expenditure on irrigation between 1966 and 1990 will amount to 50 billion roubles — one-fifth of the overall capital investment in agriculture. (TASS English 0512 GMT)

Farmers of south rayons in Belgorod Oblast started sowing early grain and pulse crops today. This has been made possible by rapid advance of spring this year. Sowing early hybrids of corn in the Penza Oblast on more than a half of the total acreage will enable the farmers to double yields of corn without expanding the acreage. All seeds are ready for the season. (0600 GMT)

In the Altay, farmers in the foothills and the forest-steppe zone have started retaining thawed water. (Moscow TV 0722 GMT)

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Kazakhstan are completing their preparations for the spring sowing. Two hundred fifty thousand tractors will take part in the field work. Out of them, 235,000 are ready. The republic has overfulfilled its quota for tractor repairs. The high level of technical readiness will enable farmers to sow crops to over 1 million hectares daily in the height of the sowing season. The total acreage under spring crops in the republic will amount to almost 30 million hectares. (0800 GMT)

Moscow 7 Apr (TASS) — Soviet scientists have given farmers seven winter wheat varieties with a potential yield of over 90 quintals per hectare while the "Odesskaya Polikarlikovaya" and "Polijarlikovaya 49" varieties under optimum conditions are capable of producing over 100 quintals per hectare. Since 1984 there are 128 new varieties and hybrids of what, barley, peas, corn and other crops under test in the USSR. (TASS Russian 0919 GMT)

Sowing complexes have been set up in kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Altay. The complexes are large units equipped with machines and everything necessary in order to conduct the field work in shortet time possible and with a high quality. Their special concern is wide implementation of the intensive technology. Best varieties of the Siberian wheat will be grown according to this technology on over 1 million hectares this year in the kray. (1000 GMT)

Farms in Saratov Oblast are to sow cereal grains, wheat, millet, and corn, and cultivate them using intensive technology on an area of 1.2 million hectares. (1400 GMT)

8 April

Cotton sowing has started in Azeribaijan today. The cotton seeds are to be sown on the area of almost 300,000 hectares. Together with sowing, fertilizers will be applied. This year differs from the cotton growers from preceding years in that the outcome of their work will be summed up according to the final result, that is according to the yield of cotton fiber. It is envisaged that around 214,000 metric tons of cotton fiber will be produced in the first year of the 5-year plan. (0400 GMT)

The seed-drills of the flax-growers of Smolensk Oblast have begun to be drawn closer to the fields. They have fully completed preparation for sowing. Main attention has been paid to the creation of a reliable seed stock, as last year was extremely unfavorable for the ripening of this crop. The seed specialists' apprehension turned out to be correct: around 600 metric tons of seed failed tests for ability to germinate and were rejected. The losses have been made up from transferable stocks. (1500 GMT)

9 April

Sowing of row crops has begun in Crimea. Water has now reached Crimea via the north Crimean canal; it has arrived at Kerch. The third phase of the canal is now being built to the northern rayons of the peninsula. Most of the farms are, as yet, on non-irrigated arid land, with scope for local irrigation. (1800 GMT)

Selective plowing for spring crops is underway in Kaliningrad Oblast. In Vakhsh Valley in Tajikistan, mass harvesting of fodder crops has begun, with perko and rape occupying about 40,000 hectares in the republic. (2130 GMT)

Work is going on in the fields of the northernmost Don areas. The quality of the sowing work is high. Most of the fields are in the care of contract-labor groups. Many farms have already finished giving additional fertilizer to the winter crops. (2300 GMT)

Cosmonaut Death Claims 'Propaganda'
PM081510 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 6

[Yaroslav Golovanov article under the rubric "First Cosmonaut": "Slander"]

[Text] "On 10 November Cosmonaut Belokonev reported from orbit:

'Attention, attention! Equipment in order. It will probably be possible to alter course.'

'Earth: 'Be careful. Do not deviate from the planned program, it is dangerous.'

"On 10 November the cosmonaut saw strange luminous particles through the porthole. Earth asked him to collect a sample.

"Belokonev replied: 'I'll try, but I don't know how to go about it. I'm very cold.'

"On 11 November, Belokonev reported that the pressure in the spacecraft was normal and that all was going excellently. Soon after he rushed the good news through to the control center:

"'I've been lucky. I've managed to get a sample. What's that? Radiation? I did not think about that. Are the particles dangerous?'

"On 12 November Belokonev's anxious voice was heard through the crackle of atmospheric interference:

"'I can't hear you! I can't hear you! The batteries are not working! It's dark in here. The instruments are not functioning any more. Oxygen! Comrades! For God's sake, is there anything I can do? Anything? Oh damn! Nothing! Do you understand?'

"The spacecraft left the planned orbit. The cosmonaut's speech turned into incomprehensible murmuring and eventually faded out completely. We never heard any more from poor, brave Belokonev. How many more were there like him? The Americans ask: Was Yuriy Gagarin really the first man in space?"

At first glance this text is reminiscent of an extract from an ill-informed science fiction story. Yet this is not a story but an almost verbatim account of a "radio intercept" from space published in the youth weekly magazine *WEEKEND* under the name of one Alan (Kheynderson)!

When I read foreign articles about "Soviet cosmonauts who died in space before Gagarin's flight," I initially felt a certain irony and disgust: "After all, if this had been put together by professionals surely they could have thought up a forgery a little more subtle?" But the more I read the less indifferent I became. This is a well-thought-out anti-Soviet propaganda campaign, whose authors have been striving for many years now to dupe millions of people and belittle our country's scientific and technical achievements.

Yuriy Gagarin's flight was not only a scientific and technical triumph for our country but a political victory, too. The West understood that perfectly well. "From the propaganda viewpoint," *THE NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE* wrote, "the first man in space is worth, possibly, more than 100 divisions or a dozen ICBMs ready for launching at the first command." And it is quite natural and only to be expected that our enemies should desire to undermine the significance of that flight, to find some flaws in it, and to compromise it in some way. At first, in their haste they made gross errors and wrote again about "Russian tricks" and a "tape recorded in orbit." The *U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT* wrote in 1961 that the first flight took place a few days before 12 April but that the pilot died and Gagarin subsequently "played" his role on earth.

Then the name of Hero of the Soviet Union Vladimir Sergeyevich Ilyushin, our well-known test pilot, was unexpectedly and mysteriously drawn into this new slanderous orbit. On 8 June 1960 Ilyushin was driving to the airfield when he was struck head on, as they say, by a car whose occupants were drunk. He was very seriously injured. Ilyushin underwent long treatment in Moscow and on his doctors' recommendation received the final course of treatment at cure centers in China. "The hero, son of the famous aircraft designer, had broken legs. It is all clear: he went into space before Gagarin and a disaster occurred on landing" — thus a new "canard" was born. Even the date of Ilyushin's take off on board the spacecraft *Rossiya* was given: 7 April 1960. And even though Vladimir Sergeyvich himself described the whole truth about this unfortunate incident in the magazine *YUNOST*, the West sometimes recalls this story, guided by the great formula that "there is no smoke without fire." ("to li on shubu ukral, to li u nego shubu ukrali").

Vladimir Ilyushin is a well known and popular man, one who is hard to discredit. Instead of using real people it is far simpler either to invent "dead souls" or to dream up cosmonauts, just as Tynyanov dreamed up his Lieutenant Kije, a completely "nonexistent person." James Oberg, in the *AEROSPACE HISTORICAL BULLETIN*, claims that in the period 1957-1961 four Soviet cosmonauts — Dolgov, Grachev, Zavadovskiy, and Lodovskiy — died in space. Where did he get them from? What kind of people were they?

I figured out who Dolgov was quite quickly. Obviously it was Petr Ivanovich Dolgov, of course, the well known Soviet parachutist. Frank Edwards claimed in the magazine *FATE* that Dolgov died in space. According to that journalist, Dolgov's craft was located by tracking stations in Turkey, Sweden, Britain, Italy, and Japan. However, not a single station in those countries confirmed that report. Furthermore, Sir Bernard Lovell, the major British radio astronomer, who works at Jodrell Bank, one of the largest radio observatories in the world, bluntly stated: "We have no grounds for believing that any unsuccessful space launch took place in the USSR."

Petr Ivanovich Dolgov actually died during a parachute jump from an altitude of 24,500 meters. After he and the other famous record-making parachutist Evgeniy Andreyev left the car of the stratosphere balloon "Volga" Dolgov's protective suit depressurized and he was already dead when he landed. However, that tragedy did not happen on 11 October 1960, as Edwards claimed, but 1 November 1962.

So where did he find Grachev? I sat down and thought. It is quite a common Russian surname. There was an Akinfiy Grachev — head of an Old Believers' church in Samara. He would hardly have wanted to go into space. In the 19th century there was Yefim Grachev, the well known horticulturalist. I recall a Leonid Pavlovich Grachev — director of the Izvestiya Publishing House. Another utterly earth-bound man. Wait a moment. Perhaps it was Andrey Dmitriyevich Grachev? He was an outstanding designer of liquid-fuel rocket engines, who spent the last 16 years of his life woring with Academician Valentin Petrovich Glushko at the Gas Dynamics Laboratory-Experimental Design Office. A lunar crater has been named for him. And even though he did much for cosmonautics in our country he himself did not go into space and indeed would not have been allowed to make such a flight on the grounds of age (he was born in 1900). And he could not have died before Gagarin's space flight because he actually died 3 years after that flight. Zavadovskiy? Lodovskiy? I have never heard those names before...

Then I suddenly remembered: What am I racking my brains for, the whole thing is simply a fabrication! In addition to these four "space phantoms" and the aforementioned Belokonev I found the surname Kachura. The Western mass media later added Rostislav Bogdashevskiy, Yuriy Vavkin, Ivan Korneyev, Voronov, Vinogradov, and so forth to the detachment of Soviet cosmonauts. People with those names do exist but have not been into space amd were not trained to do so.

It is noticeable that many of the articles on space catastrophes prior to Gagarin's flight were written in a pseudo-coy [psevdokonfuzlivyy] tone. You get the impression that the authors themselves feel uneasy telling ties: "We of course, are making no claims, but there is no smoke without fire..."

As for the scientific and technical aspects of the matter, Belokonev with the radioactive particles which he caught in space is by no means unique. Reports of this kind were designed for utterly ignorant and obtuse readers. There was a description, for example, of how a Soviet cosmonaut died in space having taken off shortly before Gagarin — on 4 February 1961. Again the date was chosen not at random but to give the whole story verisimilitude: on that very day an automatic interplanetary station was actually launched from Baykonur for Venus but unfortunately did not reach its plannet orbit and became an artificial earth satellite. This launch had nothing to do with the manned flight program. And then some Italian physiologist turned up who, "having heard a recording of a cosmonaut's heartbeat," stated that it belonged to a dying man. Did the man who wrote this rubbish really not know that the information on the state of health of someone flying in a spacecraft in those days would have been transmitted using coded telemetry and that without special decoding on earth (which, incidentally, no one does since doctors do not need it) signals emanating from space cannot sound like heartbeats.

The Italian news agency CONTINENTALE was particularly successful in reporting the "death of Soviet cosmonauts." According to those reports Cosmonaut Lodovskiy died in suborbital flight in 1957, Cosmonaut Shiborin died in 1958, and Cosmonaut Mitkov died a year later. All these names are invented. The main supplier of information for the "death factory," as journalists mockingly christened CONTINENTALE, were the brothers Arcillo and Giambattista Judica-Cordiglia, sometimes known as scientists, sometimes as radio hams, who built their own space eavesdropping center — Torre Berta — near Turin, where they manufactured slanderous "radio intercepts" and the sound of "gradually fading heartbeats." Surprisingly enough the Torre Berta "center" managed to record signals which no other station heard, despite being especially equipped to receive information from space.

I repeat: this is a campaign. Articles about unknown Soviet cosmonauts who allegedly died in space have been published in dozens of other, mainly U.S., publications, some with a respectable reputation, furthermore: *THE WASHINGTON EVENING STAR, THE BALTIMORE SUN*, the New York journal *AMERICA, THE SCIENCE BUSINESS DAILY*, and so forth. All this scandal-mongering was summed up by journalist James Mills in *TRUE* magazine in June 1961. Not only hacks but also, unfortunately, well-known journalists set about these slanderous fabrications. Drew Pearson, one of the "kings" of the U.S. press, published an article in *THE WASHINGTON POST* in which he asserted: "Five Russian cosmonauts have died in space. The first three died in suborbital flights in 1959. Then two more died in May and September 1960." Well, that does make five. On that score Hero of the Soviet Union Mark Lazarevich Gallay, the well-known test pilot, who participated directly in training our first cosmonauts, writes in his documentary account "With a Man on Board": "...The foreign press used to carry cautious reports (of the 'it is said' type...) on death of five Soviet cosmonauts 'during unsuccessful manned space flights'. Five, no more, no less, because nothing gives greater authenticity to a report, even an improbable one, than figures or numbers."

For James Oberg from Houston, however, five was not enough. "I suspect that eight cosmonauts died during training," he writes in the journal *SPACE FLIGHT*. A journalist by the name of (Lazzero) published a list of nine "dead" Soviet cosmonauts. The Italian newspaper *CORRIERE DELLA SERA* tried to convince its readers that there were 14 of them.

Fie, gentlemen, shame on you!

No Soviet cosmonaut before Yuriy Gagarin's flight on 12 April 1961 took part in suborbital flights, attempted a launch into space, or flew in space, and thus could not have died there.

Valentin Vasilyevich Bondarenko, a military pilot, did die. Not in space but on earth. That was on 23 March 1961. Valentin was the youngest of the first batch of cosmonauts (he was 24 years old). According to the training schedule he had just finished a 10-day stint in the soundproof pressure chamber — like the other cosmonauts, he was undergoing isolation and silence training. The pressure in the chamber was reduced to compensate for the excess oxygen content. After medical tests Bondarenko removed the sensors attached to him, cleaned the places where they had been attached with cotton wool soaked in alcohol, and without looking, threw away the cotton wool which landed on the ring of a live electric hot plate. In the oxygen-charged atmosphere the flames immediately filled the small space of the chamber. Valentin's wollen training suit caught fire but he did not give the alarm signal to the control panel, he tried to put out the flames himself.

The doctor on duty could not open the airtight door without first equalizing the pressure outside the chamber with that inside. That whole operation would only have taken a few seconds. But that time was not available. When Valentin was dragged out of the pressure chamber he was still conscious and kept repeating: "It was my fault, not one else is to blame..." For 8 hours the doctors fought to save his life but could not save him: he died from shock resulting from burns. He was buried in his native soil of Kharkov, where he parents lived. But his wife, Anya, and his 5-year-old son, Sasha, remained at Zvezdnyy Gorodok. In the air force archives I read the following extract from the order: "To provide the family of senior Lieutenant Bondarenko with everything they need, as befits a cosmonaut's familiy. Dated 15 April 1961. Malinovskiy." The photograph of Valentin Bondarenko which you see here [article includes picture of young man in uniform] was taken literally a few days before his death and was sent to me by his son, the young officer Aleksandr Bondarenko.

Our first cosmonauts, Bondarenko's comrades in the team, told me a lot about him. He was a good, mild-mannered man, who grew up in an ordinary worker's family in the Ukraine. He left school in Kharkov in 1954, volunteered for the army, entered air force college, and dreamed of becoming a military aviator; that dream was fulfilled. Later he was chosen to join the team of cosmonauts and began training for that purpose at the end of April 1960. He was well liked among the crew for his good natured disposition. "He was nicknamed Tinkerbell [Zvonochek]," Pavel Popovich said, "but I cannot remember why." "He was a good soccer player," added Aleksey Leonov, "and no one in our crew could beat him at table tennis. He never took offense at friendly practical jokes and if he was made the victim of such a joke he would laugh along with everyone else. And if someone's sense of humor extends to himself, he is a good man, as a rule." "Valentin could sometimes erupt, but without malice or taking offense," recalls Georgiy Shoshin, who shared an apartment with Bondarenko for some time. "He would flare up literally for a moment, then blush, and become embarrassed at his own lack of restraint. I admired his selflessness and determination. I still tremble when I remember how he climbed a drain pipe to the fifth floor to a child standing on a window ledge, each second running the risk of falling together with the creaky pipe...Valentin loved his father very much. He was proud of him, a former partisan scout. In the evenings, when we went out onto the balcony for a breath of fresh air, he would recount many interesting things about him, suddenly interrupting himself with the question:

"'Did I ever tell you that pop's tall sheepskin hat is in the Museum of Partisan Glory?'"

A rocket motor exploded on 17 May 1930, killing its designer, Max (Valye), the remarkable Austrian enthusiast of space conquest. He was 35 years old. He was the first casualty of cosmonautics. A year before his death, (Valye) wrote: the fact that the burden of earth's gravity cannot be overcome without great effort is clear, as is the probable fact that this venture will take much time, money, and perhaps human life. However, should we abandon it on those grounds?" An accidental death in a great cause is possible since it is impossibie to foresee all the dangers awaiting a man here. S.P. Korolev wrote to his wife Nina Ivanovna from the cosmodrome: "We are striving to do everything without haste, in a thorough way. Our motto is: protect people. God give us the strength and ability to achieve this always, remembering that it is contrary to the law of knowledge of life"...On 27 January 1967 history repeated itself: the U.S. astronauts Virgil Grissom, Edward White, and Roger Chaffee, the first Apollo crew, were burned to death during training on the ground in the oxygen-filled atmosphere of the spacecraft. They died before they could open the hatch. Eliot See and Charles Bassett, the main crew of *Gemini-9*, crashed during training for a space launch. Astronaut Clifford Williams died during a training flight, as did Astronaut Robert Lawrence some time later. Williams was a backup man for *Apollo-9* and trained for *Apollo-12*. He was to be the fourth man to walk on the moon. During training Astronaut Theodore Freeman's jet plane collided in mid-air with a goose. He baled out but was too low and crashed to the ground. Could such an event have been foreseen? Could the deaths of Yuriy Gagarin and Vladimir Seregin, his most experienced instructor, during a routine training flight, have been foreseen?

All of these incidents occurred not in space, not during the roar of lift off, nor during the whirlwind of fire in touch down, but in training, the most routine, common or garden training. Does this list, already full of grief, seem so short to some people that they want to increase it artificially?!

I talked with Yuriy Gagarin in 1967 after Vladimir Komarov's death. That interview was published in *KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA* and reprinted by many newspapers throughout the world. He said at that time:

"You get nothing for free. No victory over nature was ever won without blood. We have begun to understand space...We are sitting in the cabins of new spacecraft, going into new orbits..."

Yuriy died less than a year after our conversation.